

SENATE BILL 2196

By Bowling

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 55,
Chapter 9, relative to lighting regulations.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 55-9-405, is amended by deleting subsections (e) and (f) and substituting instead the following:

(e) A motor vehicle or trailer transporting intrastate a load of logs or long pulpwood that projects four feet (4') or more beyond the rear of the body or bed of the vehicle, when the vehicle is operated on a highway or parked on the shoulder or immediately adjacent to the traveled portions of the highway, must have the following securely affixed as close as practical to the end of the projecting load:

(1) One (1) amber strobe-type lamp, complying with SAE J595, equipped with a multidirectional type lens so mounted as to be visible from the rear and both sides of the projecting load. If the mounting of one (1) amber strobe lamp cannot be accomplished so that it is visible from the rear and both sides of the projecting load, then multiple amber strobe lights, complying with SAE J595, must be utilized so as to meet the visibility requirements of this subdivision (e)(1). The amber strobe lamp must flash at a rate of at least sixty (60) flashes per minute and be plainly visible from a distance of at least five hundred feet (500') to the rear and sides at a radius of one hundred eighty degrees (180°) of the projecting load. One (1) red flag or one (1) fluorescent orange flag, or both, that is at least eighteen inches (18") square, made of cloth, synthetic, or man-made material, must also be so displayed; or

(2) One (1) amber light-emitting diode (LED) light, complying with SAE J595, equipped with a multidirectional type lens, mounted so as to be visible from the rear and from both sides of the projecting load; provided, that if the mounting of one (1) amber LED light cannot be accomplished so that it is visible from the rear and from both sides of the projecting load, then multiple amber LED lights, complying with SAE J595, must be utilized so as to meet the visibility requirements of this subdivision (e)(2). The amber LED light must flash at a rate of at least sixty (60) flashes per minute and be plainly visible from a distance of at least five hundred feet (500') from the rear and sides at a radius of one hundred eighty degrees (180°) of the projecting load. The LED light must be constructed of durable, weather-resistant material and may be powered by the vehicle's electrical system or by an independent battery system, or both. If the LED light is powered by an independent battery system, then the driver of the vehicle must have in the driver's immediate possession charged, spare batteries for use in case of battery failure. Any solid state LED lighting that consists of multiple LED lights must not have less than eighty-five percent (85%) of the LED lights in operable condition. One (1) red flag or one (1) fluorescent orange flag, or both, that is at least eighteen inches (18") square, made of cloth, synthetic or man-made material, must also be so displayed.

(f) From one-half ($\frac{1}{2}$) hour before sunset to one-half ($\frac{1}{2}$) hour after sunrise and at all other times when lights are required to be displayed, a motor vehicle or trailer transporting intrastate a load of poles or posts that projects four feet (4') or more beyond the rear of the body or bed of the vehicle, when the vehicle is operated on a highway or parked on the shoulder or immediately adjacent to the traveled portions of the highway,

must have the following securely affixed as close as practical to the end of the projecting load:

(1) One (1) amber strobe-type lamp, complying with SAE J595, equipped with a multidirectional type lens so mounted as to be visible from the rear and both sides of the projecting load. If the mounting of one (1) amber strobe lamp cannot be accomplished so that it is visible from the rear and both sides of the projecting load, then multiple amber strobe lights, complying with SAE J595, must be utilized so as to meet the visibility requirements of this subdivision (f)(1). The amber strobe lamp must flash at a rate of at least sixty (60) flashes per minute and be plainly visible from a distance of at least five hundred feet (500') to the rear and sides at a radius of one hundred eighty degrees (180°) of the projecting load. At all other times one (1) red flag or one (1) fluorescent orange flag, or both, at least eighteen inches (18") square, made of cloth, synthetic or man-made material, must be so displayed; or

(2) One (1) amber light-emitting diode (LED) light, complying with SAE J595, equipped with a multidirectional type lens, mounted so as to be visible from the rear and from both sides of the projecting load. If the mounting of one (1) amber LED light cannot be accomplished so that it is visible from the rear and from both sides of the projecting load, then multiple amber LED lights, complying with SAE J595, must be utilized so as to meet the visibility requirements of this subdivision (f)(2). The amber LED light must flash at a rate of at least sixty (60) flashes per minute and be plainly visible from a distance of at least five hundred feet (500') from the rear and sides at a radius of one hundred eighty degrees (180°) of the projecting load. The LED light must be constructed of durable, weather-resistant material and may be powered by the vehicle's electrical system

or by an independent battery system, or both. If the LED light is powered by an independent battery system, then the driver of the vehicle must have in the driver's immediate possession charged, spare batteries for use in case of battery failure. Any solid state LED lighting that consists of multiple LED lights must not have less than eighty-five percent (85%) of the LED lights in operable condition. At all other times one (1) red flag or one (1) fluorescent orange flag, or both, at least eighteen inches (18") square, made of cloth, synthetic or man-made material, must be so displayed.

(g) A violation of this section is a Class C misdemeanor.

SECTION 2. This act takes effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.